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FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT SECTO 10061 ACTION LONDON PARIS BONN INFO SECSTATE
OCTOBER 7.

QUOTE S E C R E T CTO 10061

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: (OVIP) (VANCE, CYPRUS),

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH UK, FRANCE AND FRG ON OGADEN PEACE
INITIATIVE

REF: () LONDON 16547

(B) TOSEC 10059

1. BRITISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON HAS CONTACTED DEPARTMENT CON-
CERNING PROPOSED TALKING POINTS FOR USE BY AMBASSADORS OF
FRG, FRANCE, UK AND US IN APPROACHING SELECTED ARAB AND
AFRICAN STATES ABOUT MEANS TO END OGADEN CONFLICT. BRITISH
ALSO HAVE INDICATED THE LINE OF DISCUSSION ON OGADEN FIGHT-
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ING WHICH FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN PROPOSES TO PURSUE DURING
HIS OCTOBER 9-11 VISIT TO MOSCOW.

2. BRITISH PROPOSAL FOR TALKING POINTS TO BE USED IN
AFRICA/ARAB CAPITALS ARE AS FOLLOWS QUOTE:

A. WESTERN NATIONS CANNOT BUT BE CONCERNED AT THE BLOODY

CONFLICT IN THE HORN OF AFRICA WHERE NO RESOLUTION APPEARS TO BE IN SIGHT;

B. THE WESTERN NATIONS RECOGNIZE THAT THIS IS AN AFRICAN PROBLEM, COMPLICATED IN ITS NATURE AND WITH DEEP ROOTS IN ITS HISTORY.

C. IT IS NOT THE WESTERN DESIRE TO INTERFER, NOR DO THEY HAVE ANY PARTICULAR IDEAS TO PROMOTE.

D. THE WESTERN NATIONS, HOWEVER, WOULD WELCOME AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND TO KNOW WHETHER THERE WAS ANY ROLE WHICH THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED MIGHT THINK IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR THEM TO PLAY. FOR EXAMPLE, WOULD THE EFFORTS OF THE OAU COUNTRIES TO ACHIEVE A SOLUTION BE STRENGTHENED BY SOME FORM OF ACTION IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND WOULD IT BE USEFUL FOR THE WEST TO TALK WITH THE SOVIET UNION? END QUOTE.

3. BRITISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON INDICATES THAT OWEN, WHO HOPES TO HAVE AT LEAST PARTIAL RESULTS OF SOUNDINGS WITH AFRICAN/ARAB CAPITALS BEFORE DEPARTING FOR MOSCOW, PROPOSES IN MOSCOW TO: 1) MENTION BRITISH AND WESTERN CONCERN OVER BLOODY AND INTRACTABLE OGADEN CONFLICT WHICH OAU SEEMINGLY CANNOT FIND MEANS TO RESOLVE AND 2) ASK THE SOVIETS IF THEY SEE ANY ADVANTAGE IN INTER-SECRET

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NATIONAL ACTION BEYOND THAT OF THE OAU.

4. WE UNDERSTAND FROM BRITISH THAT FRENCH ALREADY ARE INSTRUCTING THEIR MISSIONS IN IVORY COAST, CAMEROON AND SENEGAL TO TAKE SOUNDINGS WITH HOST GOVERNMENT. PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING INTENDS TO RAISE MATTER WITH GABONESE PRESIDENT (AND CURRENT OAU CHAIRMAN) BONGO OCTOBER 8. FRENCH INSTRUCTIONS, HOWEVER, APPARENTLY CONTAIN SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT INTERPRETATION OF OCTOBER 4 MEETING. SPECIFICALLY WITH REGARD TO AFRICAN/ARAB CONSULTATIONS, FRENCH WISH TO AVOID IMPRESSION THAT INDIVIDUAL AMBASSADORS ARE SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE OTHER THREE NATIONS. FRENCH AT THIS TIME ALSO WISH TO AVOID MENTION OF POSSIBLE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIETS. WITH REGARD TO OWEN CONVERSATIONS IN MOSCOW, FRENCH SAY THAT THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE OCTOBER 4 AGREEMENT WAS THAT HE WOULD LIMIT HIMSELF TO AN EXPRESSION OF GENERAL CONCERN IN WEST ABOUT OGADEN SITUATION.

5. IT IS CLEAR FROM SECRETARY'S BILATERALS IN NEW YORK THAT CONSIDERABLE MOMENTUM IS BUILDING UP WITHIN THE UN COMMUNITY FOR ACTION ON THE OGADEN ISSUE. THUS, IN

SECRETARY'S VIEW QUADRIpartite RECOMMENDATIONS DO NOT PLACE ENOUGH EMPHASIS ON THE UN OPTION. BOTH THE SOVIETS AND YUGOSLAVS HAVE INDICATED THEY MAY RAISE THIS ISSUE IN THE UN. EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY HAS URGED THE UN BE SEIZED WITH THIS QUESTION AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF CONGO/BRAZZAVILLE HAS RAISED THE ISSUE WITH THE SECRETARY. IN VIEW OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS, THE OAU MEDIATION EFFORT MAY SOON BE OVERTAKEN. OUR OWN INITIATIVE WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THIS IMPRESSION. WE WANT, HOWEVER, TO ASSURE THE AFRICANS THAT WE ARE TRYING TO SUPPORT THEIR EFFORTS RATHER THAN IGNORING THEM. CONSEQUENTLY, WE BELIEVE THAT CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO HAVING OUR EMBASSIES IN COUNTRIES WHICH ARE MEMBERS OF THE OAU MEDIATION COMMITTEE RAISE THE OGADEN SECRET

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ISSUE WITH HIGHEST APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS. OUR THOUGHT WOULD BE TO PRESENT THE TALKING POINTS IN A MANNER WHICH WILL UNDERSCORE OUR DESIRE TO REINFORCE THE OAU EFFORT. AT A MINIMUM, THE LATTER POINT SHOULD BE INCORPORATED INTO THE PRESENTATION TO BE MADE TO THE NIGERIANS.

CAMEROONIANS, SENEGALESE AND TANZANIANS, ALL OF WHOM ARE MEMBERS OF OAU COMMITTEE. ACTION ADDRESSES ARE REQUESTED TO COMMENT SOONEST ON WHETHER ALL OAU COMMITTEE MEMBERS SHOULD BE CONTACTED OR WHETHER NIGERIANS, AS CHAIRMAN, WILL SUFFICE. IF NECESSARY, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO INSTRUCT U.S. EMBASSIES TO MAKE ALL NECESSARY ADDITIONAL CONTACTS.

FYI: TO THE BEST OF OUR INFORMATION, THE MEMBERS OF THE OAU COMMITTEE ARE: CAMEROON, LESOTHO, LIBERIA, MAURITANIA, NIGERIA, SENEGAL, TANZANIA AND THE GAMBIA (REPLACING SUDAN).

6. YUGOSLAVS MIGHT BE ABLE TO PLAY A PARTICULARLY USEFUL ROLE IN THIS CRISIS IN LIGHT OF ITS LEADERSHIP IN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND GIVEN THE FACT THAT A YUGOSLAV IS NOW PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. SECRETARY THEREFORE REQUESTS DEPARTMENT'S AND EMBASSY BELGRADE'S VIEWS ON THE DESIRABILITY OF RAISING THIS ISSUE WITH YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS.

7. YOU SHOULD INFORM APPROPRIATE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS THAT DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO INSTRUCT US EMBASSIES IN TEHRAN, CAIRO AND DAR ES SALAAM TO MAKE LOCAL SOUNDINGS ALONG LINES OF BRITISH TALKING POINTS. HOWEVER, IN RECOGNITION FRENCH POINT OF VIEW, OUR AMBASSADORS WILL, IN PLACE OF REFERENCE TO "WESTERN SECRET

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COUNTRIES," BE INSTRUCTED TO MAKE POINT USG IS EXPRESS-
ING ITS VIEWS WHICH ARE BOLSTERED BY ITS UNDERSTANDING
OF CONCERN OF LEADING EUROPEAN NATIONS, WITHOUT
IDENTIFYING THOSE NATIONS. OUR AMBASSADORS ALSO WILL
BE INSTRUCTED TO EXPAND MENTION OF POSSIBLE UN ACTION
TO INCLUDE SPECIFIC MENTION OF THE POSSIBILITY OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL AND THEREFORE INEVITABLY CONSULTATION
WITH SOVIETS.

8. WITH REGARD TO VISIT OF FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN TO
MOSCOW, YOU SHOULD INFORM FCO WE BELIEVE THAT IN HIS
DISCUSSIONS WITH GROMYKO HE SHOULD NOT GO BEYOND
NOTING THAT OGADEN CONFLICT IS CAUSING GREAT CONCERN
IN THE WEST AND INQUIRING WHAT THE SOVIETS THINK SHOULD
BE DONE ABOUT OGADEN PROBLEM. THE REACTION OF GROMYKO,
AS WELL AS THE AFRICANS AND ARABS TO OUR COLLECTIVE
SOUNDINGS, SHOULD HELP FOUR POWERS PLAN THE NEXT STEPS.
SECRETARY PROPOSES THAT ANOTHER ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS
AMONG THE FOUR BE SCHEDULED NO LATER THAN ONE WEEK
FROM NOW TO REVIEW THE RESULTS OF OUR SOUNDINGS AND
CONSIDER WHETHER ANY FURTHER ACTION IS DESIRABLE.
VANCE UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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